

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 remain pending in the application.

Allowable Claims 10-13, 20 and 21

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 10-13, 20 and 21 are allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 10-13, 20 and 21 are amended herein to be in independent form. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-9, 14-19 and 22-28 over AAPA in view of Gritton

In the Office Action, claims 1-9, 14-19 and 22-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,574,166 to Gritton ("Gritton"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-9, 14-19 and 22-28 are amended herein to more particularly recite apparatus and methods relating to configuration of a DIGITAL echo canceller module to operate either as a DIGITAL acoustic echo canceller or as a DIGITAL hybrid echo canceller.

The present invention explains that preferably each of the digitally configurable echo cancellers is implemented as a software routine running on a suitable processor, e.g., on a digital signal processor (DSP). (Specification at 7). Thus, the echo cancelers of the present invention operate on signals in the DIGITAL domain.

The Examiner cites Gritton for allegedly teaching an adaptive filter arrangement capable of canceling either acoustically coupled echo signals or electronically coupled echo signals. (Office Action at 3) Applicants respectfully disagree.

Gritton teaches an adaptive filter arrangement wherein an extended impulse response characteristic is obtained by **switchably connecting** a plurality of adaptive analog echo cancellers in tandem. The relative positions of the individual adaptive cancellers in the tandem connection are controllably switched so that each of the cancellers is connected in a prescribed sequence.

Because the echo cancellers of Gritton are analog devices, a significant amount of processing (i.e., the switching) is left to the implementing device. This would require significant amount of logic, and space, and expense, when implementing in a wireless device.

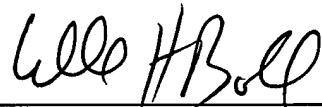
It is this excessive logic, and complexity, that the present invention avoids by use of a CONFIGURABLE DIGITAL echo canceller module that requires only CONTROL REGISTER's input value to adaptively configure itself to operate either as an acoustic echo canceller or as a hybrid echo canceller.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1-9, 14-19 and 22-28 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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